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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449(s), at least one of which was provided by an Examiner(s) handling a related patent application(s), copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make these references of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that these references indeed constitute prior art.

Applicants hereby state that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

The delay in filing was caused by the office action being received late from the attorney office.

Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08B (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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tion Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Complete If Known **Application Number** 09/888,439 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE **Filing Date** 26 JUN 2001 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor LANDESMANN, MARK Art Unit 3622 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** LE, KHANH Attorney Docket Number

Sheet

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²
	B1	OFFICE ACTION on Application 10/729,342 with filing date of 12/04/2003 and mailing date of Office Action 12/18/2006.	
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Signature Considered *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

1 This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.